

Position Evaluation

Classification:

Outdoor Recreation Planner
GS-023-14

PD#

Organization:

USACE – MSC
Civil Works Management Directorate
Operations Division

1. Reference:

OPM PCS GS-023, Outdoor Recreation Planning Series, Jun 70

2. Series and Title Determination:

Position serves as MSC Natural Resources Management Program Manager with responsibility for the coordination, administration, and management of Recreation Natural Resources, Land Management, and Environmental Compliance Programs at Corps operated Civil Works Water Development projects. Position is established and classified in a professional “Interdisciplinary” capacity for assignment to the Forestry or Biological Sciences Series in a “non-interdisciplinary” capacity as requested by management for recruitment and placement purposes and reassignment of current incumbents with qualifying experience and training to fully perform duties of this position in a nonprofessional capacity as Outdoor Recreation Planner, GS-023.

3. Grade Determination:

Grade of the position is determined by comparison of duties and responsibilities with criteria as provided for the planning, advising on, and coordinating the use of land, water, and related resources for recreation purposes, included in the Outdoor Recreation Planning Series, ref 1.a. above, with consideration given to the full responsibilities of the position beyond recreation planning to include management of district project natural resources, fish and wildlife preservation, environmental and cultural resource protection, land management, pollution prevention, and ecosystem management. Grade levels for outdoor recreation planning are provided through GS-13 through the use of two factors: Nature of Assignment; and Level of Responsibility. As explained, pg 7 of the GS-023 standard, nonsupervisory positions above GS-13 should be evaluated by extrapolation from the criteria in the standard and the application of sound position classification judgment.

Nature of Assignment:

GS-13 assignments generally involve recreation planning matters which are particularly complex, highly controversial, precedent-setting, and entail especially intricate coordination problems. Assignments at GS-13 involve projects, programs, and actions which have widespread impact and affect the planning and operations of numerous entities, public and private, requiring the knowledge and understanding of the many facets of large-scale programs for developing recreation resources and enhancing the quality of the physical environment.

Nature of assignment of subject position, the sole responsibility for outdoor recreation planning, substantially “matches” representative assignment #1 at GS-13, as included in the standard, pg 16, as functional leader or program chief in charge of a major phase of the agency’s total program at the “regional” level in developing goals, standards, methods, and systems for furthering outdoor recreation planning and development programs, analyzing trends and developments, making recommendations for consideration of higher level officials, and directing the preparation of instructions, information, and guidelines for use on a “regionwide” basis. Responsibilities of the position with sufficient experience and training beyond the functional responsibility of recreation planning to include the full complement of the MSC’s natural resource program, as described and supported in a professional interdisciplinary capacity, is considered to fully support grade assignment of the position at GS-14.

Level of Responsibility:

Considering the same rationale as applied to nature of assignment, level of responsibility of subject position is substantially comparable to that provided at GS-13, pg 16, in the sole capacity of recreation planning, i.e. leadership role in special area studies and solving critical and controversial issues; participating in the drafting of policy, regulatory, or legislative change; providing direction in the modification of policies and programs; recommendations accepted as bases for decisions on allocation of funds and resources, etc. Position with extended program responsibilities, as described, with independent responsibility, under general administrative direction, for meeting program objectives is considered to justify level of responsibility at GS-14.

4. Conclusion:

As provided, the position is considered to warrant classification as: Outdoor Recreation Planner, GS-023-14.